GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:357
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
LITERACY AMONG WOMEN
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra;Kurup Adv. Suresh

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing schemes for improvement in the rate of literacy among women in the country;

(b) whether funds earmarked for setting up of Educational complexes in low literacy pockets for the improvement of literacy among women were sanctioned for projects in districts which were not part of the identified districts;

(c) if so,the reasons therefor,alongwith the details of the identified districts for which the projects were sanctioned;and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve literacy among women in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 357 FOR 23.12.2008 ASKED BY ADV. SURESH KURUP AND SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY REGARDING LITERACY AMONG WOMEN

(a): The National Literacy Mission (NLM) provides functional literacy to adult illiterates in the 15-35 age group through Total Literacy Campaigns,Post Literacy and Continuing Education Programmes.NLM focuses on women's literacy to enhance their self confidence and self esteem and develop social and economic awareness.The Mahila Samakhya (MS) programme also supports strategies for women's education and empowerment in select districts/blocks of the country. Significant investments are being made under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) and Mid Day Meal (MDM) programmes in order to ensure access and retention of children,especially girls,in elementary education,and thereby arrest the influx of illiterate persons into the adult age group.The Ministry of Tribal Affairs also implements the scheme of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts, earlier known as scheme of "Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas".

(b) and (c): The scheme of "Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas",was implemented till the year 2007-08 through NGOs and autonomous societies of State Governments.The scheme covered S T girls in 134 identified low literacy districts and girls belonging to Primitive Tribal Groups(PTGs).Projects have been sanctioned under this scheme in identified low literacy districts and also to benefit PTG girls population.

(d) The XI Plan envisages a renewed focus on low literacy areas with special emphasis on low female literacy areas.